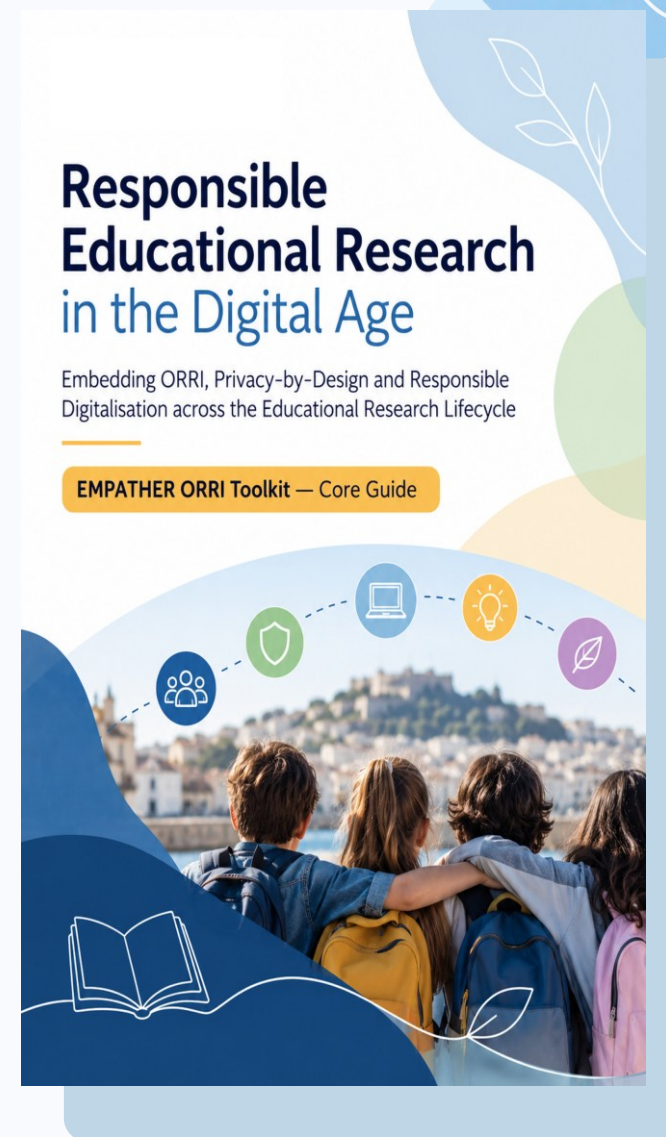


Making Educational Research More Responsible

From ORRI principles to everyday research practice





EMPATHER — *Embedding Privacy, Transparency and Trust in Educational Research* supports the development of responsible approaches to digital educational research. The project seeks to embed ORRI principles into everyday organisational and research practice, with particular emphasis on privacy, ethics, transparency, stakeholder participation, and responsible digitalisation. The **EMPATHER ORRI Toolkit** was developed through a participatory process and includes practical resources designed to support responsible decision-making throughout the educational research lifecycle.



EDVOCACY — Project Coordinator

ΔΠΕ Κυκλάδων | Διεύθυνση Πρωτοβάθμιας Εκπαίδευσης Κυκλάδων

**Directorate of Primary Education
of Cyclades** — Project Partner

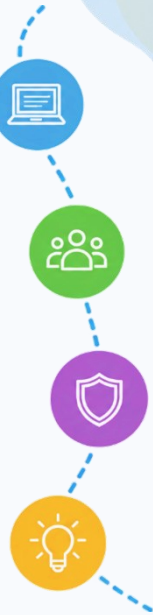
More information: <https://edvocacy.eu/empather/>

Funding:

The EMPATHER project is supported through the REINFORCING 3rd ORRI Incubator Call, Agreement Number: REINFORCING-I3_3]



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the REA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



Digital research has changed.

Have our practices kept pace?



MORE DATA

Digital platforms
and information



MORE VOICES

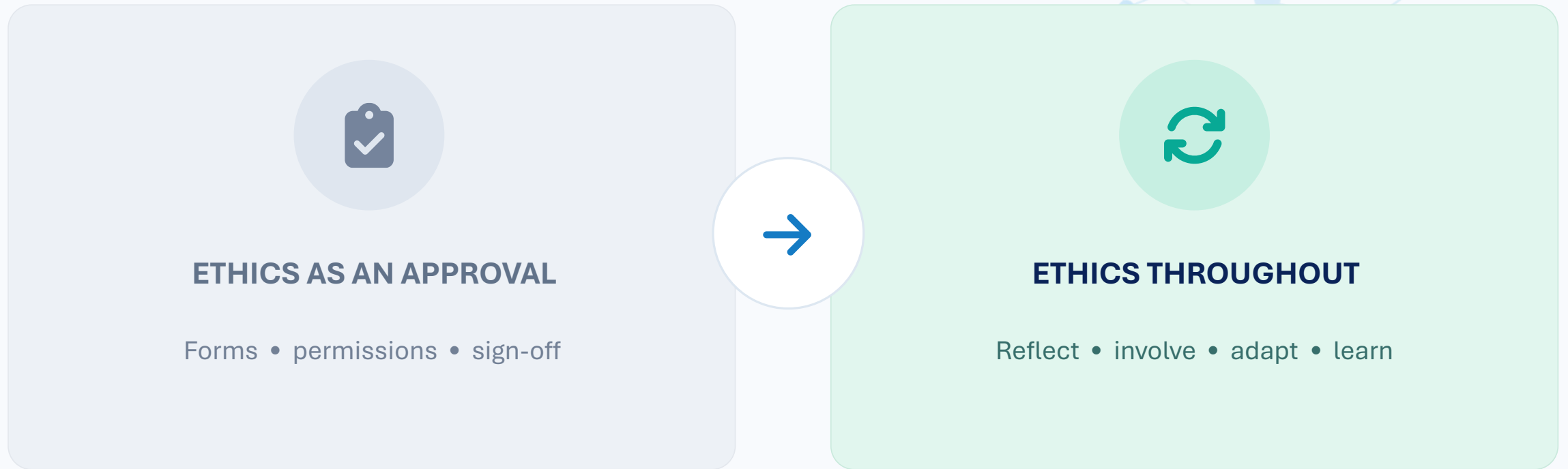
Children, schools
and communities



MORE RESPONSIBILITY

Privacy, trust
and participation

From compliance to responsible practice



Responsibility becomes part of the research workflow.

EMPATHER at a glance

A focused partnership supporting organisational change



12 MONTHS

November 2025 – October 2026



REINFORCING

EU-supported ORRI initiative



EDVOCACY

Project coordination

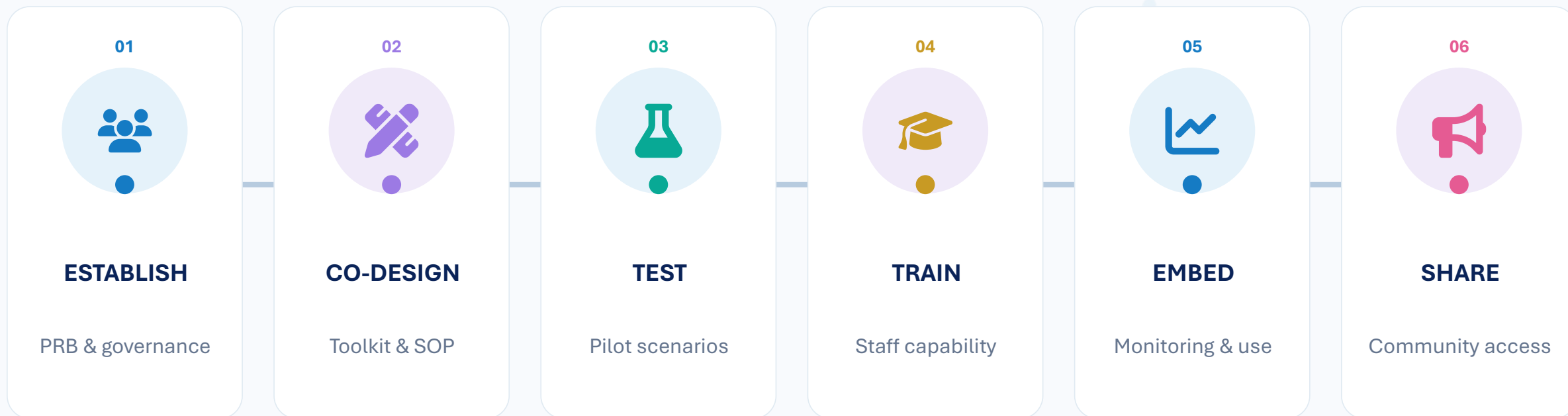


DIPE CYCLADON

Directorate of Primary Education of Cyclades

Six actions. One connected journey.

Progress from project governance to lasting organisational routines



Co-creation and stakeholder feedback run across the process

The Privacy Review Board

Different perspectives. Shared responsibility.



A milestone shaped by stakeholders

23

MAY 2026

SYROS • GREECE



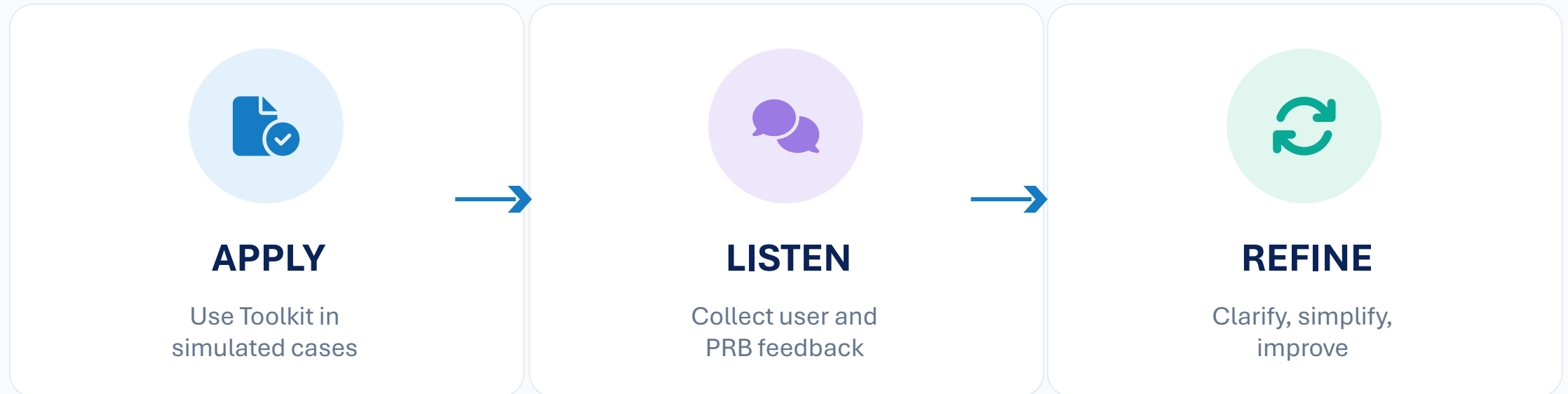
**PROTOTYPE
APPROVED**

PRB in-person review at the
4th Experimental School of Syros

NEEDS → DRAFTS → CONSULTATION → PROTOTYPE

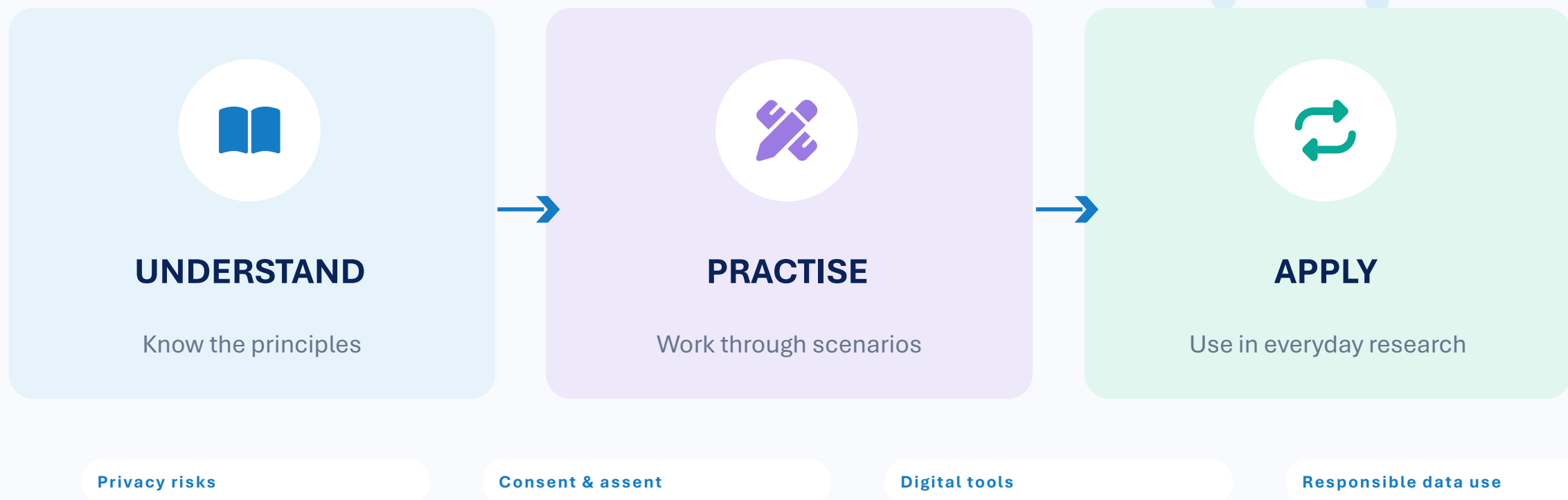
Testing decisions, not just documents

Realistic educational research scenarios informed refinement



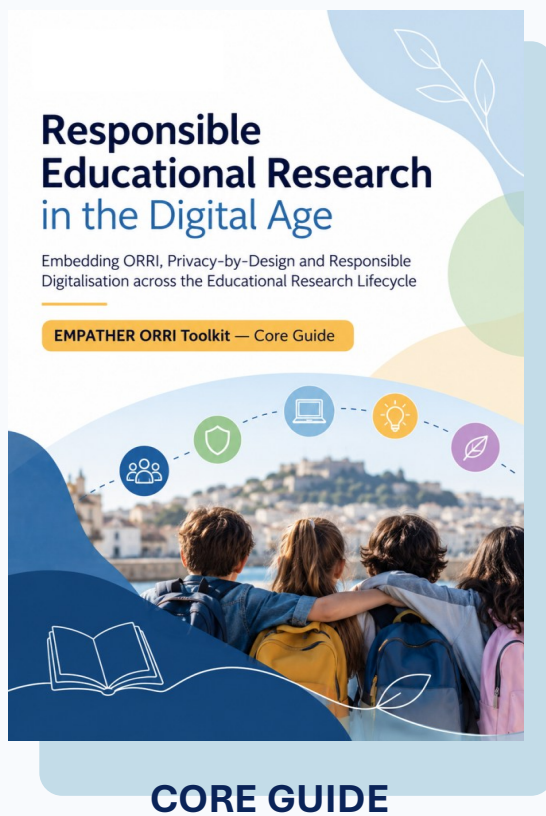
Usability matters as much as the principles behind the Toolkit.

From awareness to practical competence



One guide. Five practical resources.

The EMPATHER ORRI Toolkit turns principles into usable decisions



Privacy & Ethical Readiness



Visual Data Mapping



Privacy-by-Design SOP



Information, Consent & Assent



ORRI Monitoring & Reflection

NEXT → WHAT MAKES RESEARCH OPEN AND RESPONSIBLE?

What makes research open and responsible?

Beyond good intentions. Towards better research decisions.



PEOPLE



PRINCIPLES



PRACTICE



Seven connected dimensions

No single principle works in isolation



PARTICIPATION



TRANSPARENCY



INCLUSION



ANTICIPATION



RESPONSIVENESS



ACCOUNTABILITY



ETHICAL REFLECTION — throughout

Research with people — not just about them

Meaningful engagement begins before data collection



Not every study needs co-design — every study needs thoughtful engagement.

Open. Inclusive. Accountable.

Three responsibilities that shape everyday research



BE TRANSPARENT

Explain what happens to data



REDUCE BARRIERS

Make participation accessible



JUSTIFY DECISIONS

Document choices and changes

Openness never overrides confidentiality or safeguarding.

Anticipate. Notice. Adapt.

Responsible methods remain responsive to participants

CLASSROOM EXAMPLE



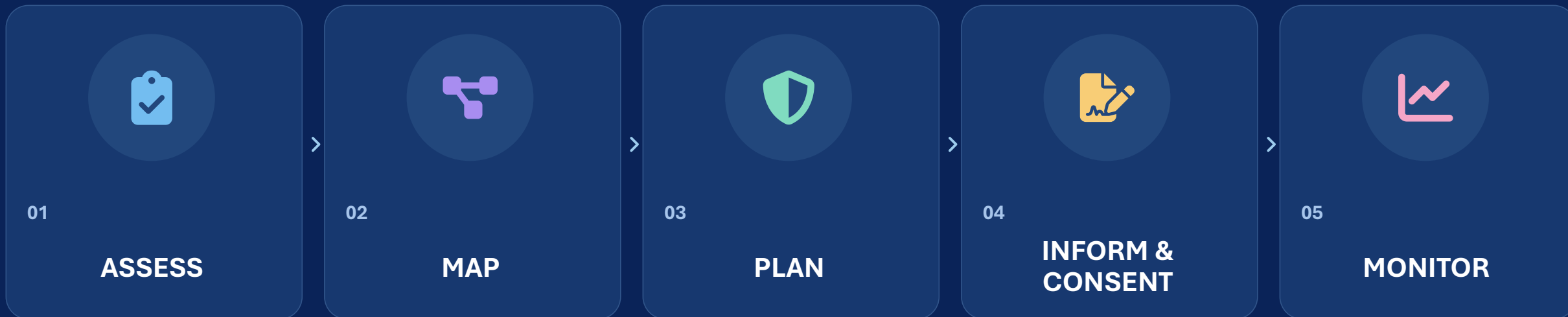
A camera captures pupils not taking part.



The researcher adjusts the camera before continuing.

Same research aim. Less unnecessary data.

One practical workflow. Five connected steps.



Revisit a step whenever the project changes.

Are we ready to begin?

A short structured check before people or data become involved



PRIVACY & ETHICAL READINESS



Is the purpose clear?



Are responsibilities agreed?

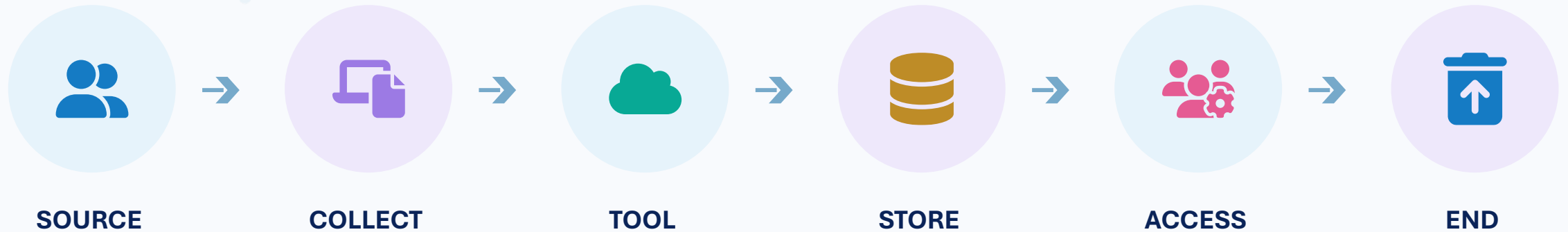


Have risks and safeguards been considered?

TOOLKIT RESOURCE • READINESS CHECKLIST

Follow the data journey

Map information across the complete research lifecycle



What? From whom? Why? Where? Who can access it? What next?

Design privacy into the process

Choose safeguards before the study starts



MINIMISE

Collect only what you need



PROTECT

Secure files and systems



CONTROL

Grant access by role



REVIEW

Reassess when plans change

TOOLKIT RESOURCE • PRIVACY-BY-DESIGN SOP

Consent is a conversation

Clear information, meaningful choice and ongoing participation



INFORMATION

Understand purpose, data use and rights



CHOICE

Ask, agree, decline or withdraw

Children need age-appropriate assent, alongside any required parental permission.

Monitor more than activity counts

Evidence, reflection and action support improvement

ORRI Monitoring Snapshot

Participation



Review

Transparency



Review

Inclusion



Review

Accountability



Review



Observe

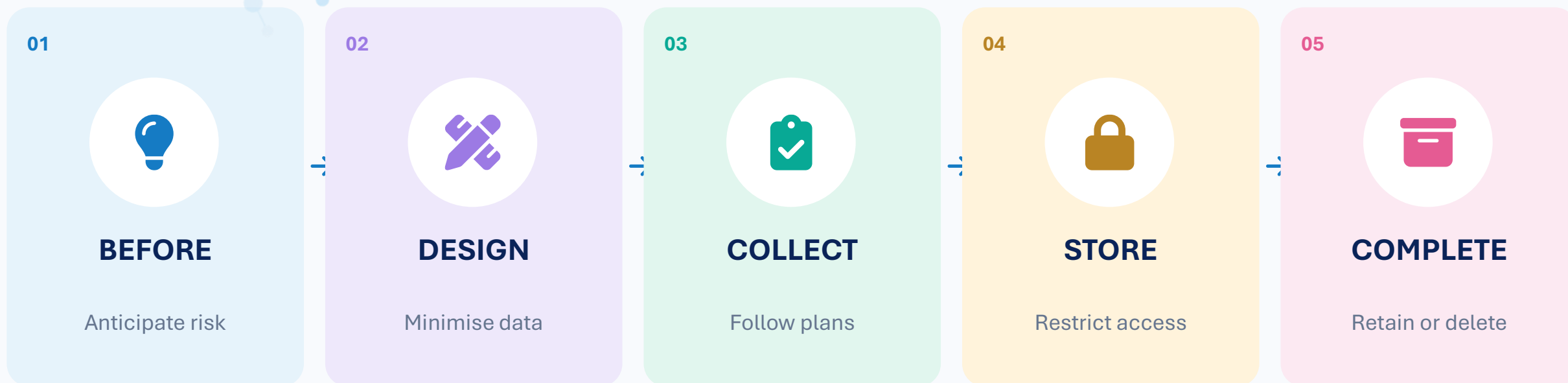
Discuss

Improve

Illustrative statuses — not project performance data

Privacy follows the full research lifecycle

From first question to responsible project closure



Privacy is a design decision — not a final administrative task.

Select tools with a critical eye

Functionality is only the first question



FIT FOR PURPOSE

Does it support the research?



DATA PRACTICES

Where does information go?



CONTROL

Can we protect and delete it?



AI OVERSIGHT

Who checks the outputs?

Technology supports the research; it does not replace researcher judgement.

Protection and participation belong together

Children are participants with rights and perspectives



VOICE

Listen and explain



CHOICE

Respect assent and withdrawal



WELLBEING

Pause when discomfort appears



INCLUSION

Make methods accessible

A signed form never overrides a participant's current wishes.

Responsible research is a continuous set of decisions.



INVOLVE



EXPLAIN



PROTECT



ADAPT



LEARN

EMPATHER ORRI Toolkit

edvocacy.eu/empather/